SOFTWARE TO GO ®
Since 1983

February 2008

Partner News

Symantec Reports Cyber Criminals Are Becoming Increasingly Professional

Software To Go is a full service Technology Solution Provider combining pre-sales knowledge and post-sales support.

Welcome to those of you just learning about the Software To Go difference.

We pledge to do everything possible to assist you in your technology needs!

Sincerely,

The Software To Go Staff

The Symantec Internet Security Threat Report, Volume XII covers the reporting period of Jan. 1, 2007, through June 30, 2007.

- **Credit cards** were the most commonly advertised commodity on underground economy servers, making up 22 percent of all advertisements; bank accounts were in close second with 21 percent.
- Symantec documented **237 vulnerabilities in Web browser plug-ins**. This is a significant increase over 74 in the second half of 2006, and 34 in the first half of 2006.
- Malicious code that attempted to steal account information for **online games** made up 5 percent of the top 50 malicious code samples by potential infection. Online gaming is becoming one of the most popular Internet activities and often features goods that can be purchased for real money, which provides a potential opportunity for attackers to benefit financially.
- **Spam** made up 61 percent of all monitored e-mail traffic, representing a slight increase over the last six months of 2006 when 59 percent of e-mail was classified as spam. Spammers have found a way to turn Google "I'm Feeling Lucky" button into a switch that could end your sense of good fortune. Search engine spam accounted for 17% of spam in January '08.
- **Theft or loss of computer or other data-storage medium** made up 46 percent of all data breaches that could lead to identity theft. Similarly, Symantec's IT Risk Management Report found that 58 percent of enterprises expect a major data loss at least once every 5 years.

For more information visit Our Web Site
www.software-to-go.com

Contact Us

Top Ten Reasons
Not to Use Software To Go

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At Software To Go, all PC and Notebook Sales are designed for your individual needs.

As always, setup and configuration are included so all you have to do is plug it in and start working!

#10 You actually like waiting 20 minutes to talk to tech support.

#9 Product quality and reliable performance are not important.

#8 You don't like a personalized IT resource.

#7 Letting a professional handle computer or network issues for you takes all the risk out of the equation.

#6 Who cares if what you bought elsewhere isn't reliable? At least it was cheap!

#5 You like the challenge of figuring out the correct automated operator responses.

#4 Rebuilding your business from scratch due to lost data sounds like it could be a lot of fun.

#3 You like juggling 50+ vendors to source products and coordinate IT projects.

#2 You don't want nor need technology which will reduce expenses, improve productivity and make you look totally awesome.

And the **Number 1** reason not to use Software To Go:

You are planning a trip to a foreign country and you want the free travel advice from tech support.

**We Sell Business Class machines by
HP, Lenovo, Toshiba, Sony**

Actual product may differ from images shown

Our computers still come with XP PRO

Did you know?

Is your CD drive is creating errors messages like 'error reading CD disc', taking time to read or showing messages there is no disc in the drive? These are the symptoms of dirty or weak CD-drive lens, because dirty lens can create errors in reading or writing and soon will not work at all.

Follow the given steps to care and clean a CD-Drive.

- First make sure your discs are clean, unscratched and you're loading it in the tray properly.

- Always use laser lens cleaner to clean drive lens.

- Insert the laser lens cleaner disc and play it for 2 to 3 min.

- Use correct CD drive cleaner fluid to clean the CD-ROM laser from dust.

Will data on CDs last forever?

Backing up your data, music or pictures to CDs is a common practice this day and age. Not only does this practice allow you to free up hard drive space, but in the event of a disaster, will allow you to restore lost files quickly and completely.

How long will your backups last?

CD shelf-life refers to the length of time that a recordable compact disc will remain viable once data has been burned onto it. Opinions vary depending who you talk to.

Top manufacturers like Mitsui, Verbatim, Maxell, Memorex and TDK claim that premium discs, with protective coating and special dyes, will last 50 or even 100 years.

Many industry experts, however, think that the unrecorded shelf life of a CD-R disc is more conservatively estimated to be between five and 10 years. One expert from IBM estimates longevity at two to five years.

Once a disc is burned, a laundry list of factors affects how long stored data can be retrieved. These variables include:

- **Media quality** - All CD-Rs are based on a thin, polycarbonate base. Any wobble or imbalancing of the disc caused, for example, by an applied label or out of level workstation can negatively impact the burning process.
- The **type of dye used** to protect the underside of the disc - This factor makes the most difference to the shelf life of a disc because the effect of sunlight can seriously impair longevity.
- **Method of storage** - Keeping discs in sleeves or stored upright in jewel cases when not in a drive minimizes the possibility of scratching.
- **Storage environment** - The ideal temperature range is 41-68, with humidity between 30-50%. Direct sunlight should be avoided at all times.
- **Marking method** - Only a felt-tip water based marker on the label side of the CD-R should be used, ideally on the clear inner part near the center. Permanent markers (like "Sharpies") should be avoided. Paper labels should always be applied to the jewel case, never to the disc itself. While manufacturers may sell circular adhesive labels that can be printed at the home or office, solvents in the paper, adhesives or inks can all degrade the disc. Uneven application of the labels can also cause the CD-R to wobble in high speed players, causing read/write errors or even damaging the player itself.

Shelf-life of storage media is really a matter of definition. Remember the 8-track tape? Music, pictures and all other data should be stored on an updated media as a rule. So, the life expectancy of data is a matter of preference – how long will CDs be the storage of choice?